

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

5 1. A method for recording a messaging session, said method comprising the steps of:

10 in response to receiving a request to record a messaging session, recording a requested selection of a plurality of message entries associated with said messaging session; and

15 notifying a plurality of users participating in said messaging session of said recording of said requested selection of said plurality of message entries.

2. The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:

20 recording at and notifying from a messaging server communicatively connected through a network to said plurality of client messaging systems.

25 3. The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said method further comprising the steps of:

submitting a plurality of approval requests to a selection of said plurality of user participating in said messaging session; and

30 controlling recording of said messaging session according to responses to said plurality of approval requests.

4. The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 3, said method further comprising the steps of:

in response to receiving a request to record said messaging session, determining authorization required for recording; and

only recording said messaging session if said plurality of approval requests are received as required by said authorization.

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5. The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:

in response to receiving a request to stop recording, stopping recording of said messaging session.

6. The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:

storing said recording of said messaging session at a message repository.

7. The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:

transmitting said recording of said messaging session to said plurality of users participating in said messaging session.

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8. The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:

receiving a request to record from a user participating in  
5 said messaging session.

9. The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:

10 receiving a request to record from a user not participating in said messaging session who is authorized to record said messaging session.

10. The method for recording a messaging session according to claim 1, said step of notifying a plurality of users participating in said messaging session of said recording of said requested selection of said plurality of message entries further comprising the step of:

notifying said plurality of user by transmitting a recording indicator to each of said plurality of users according to a plurality of recording preferences corresponding to said plurality of users.

11. A system for recording a messaging session, said system comprising:

a messaging server communicatively connected to a network;

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means for recording a requested selection of a plurality of message entries associated with said messaging session, in response to receiving a request to record a messaging session; and

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means for notifying a plurality of users participating in said messaging session of said recording of said requested selection of said plurality of message entries.

12. The system for recording a messaging session according to claim 11, said system further comprising:

means for submitting a plurality of approval requests to a selection of said plurality of user participating in said messaging session; and

means for controlling recording of said messaging session according to responses to said plurality of approval requests.

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13. The system for recording a messaging session according to  
claim 12, said system further comprising:

means for determining authorization required for recording,  
5 in response to receiving a request to record said messaging  
session; and

means for only recording said messaging session if said  
plurality of approval requests are received as required by said  
10 authorization.

14. The system for recording a messaging session according to  
claim 11, said system further comprising:

means for stopping recording of said messaging session, in  
response to receiving a request to stop recording.

15. The system for recording a messaging session according to  
claim 11, said system further comprising:

means for storing said recording of said messaging session  
at a message repository.

16. The system for recording a messaging session according to  
25 claim 11, said system further comprising:

means for transmitting said recording of said messaging  
session to said plurality of users participating in said  
messaging session.

17. The system for recording a messaging session according to  
claim 11, said system further comprising:

means for receiving a request to record from a user  
5 participating in said messaging session.

18. The system for recording a messaging session according to  
claim 11, said system further comprising:

10 means for receiving a request to record from a user not  
participating in said messaging session who is authorized to  
record said messaging session.

19. The system for recording a messaging session according to  
claim 11, said means for notifying a plurality of users  
participating in said messaging session of said recording of said  
requested selection of said plurality of message entries further  
comprising:

means for notifying said plurality of user by transmitting a  
recording indicator to each of said plurality of users according  
to a plurality of recording preferences corresponding to said  
plurality of users.

20. A program for recording a messaging session, residing on a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means, said program comprising:

5           means for enabling recording a requested selection of a plurality of message entries associated with said messaging session, in response to receiving a request to record a messaging session; and

10           means for notifying a plurality of users participating in said messaging session of said recording of said requested selection of said plurality of message entries.

21. The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 20, said program further comprising:

          means for submitting a plurality of approval requests to a selection of said plurality of user participating in said messaging session; and

          means for controlling recording of said messaging session according to responses to said plurality of approval requests.

22. The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 21, said program further comprising:

means for determining authorization required for recording, in response to receiving a request to record said messaging session; and

means for only enabling recording of said messaging session if said plurality of approval requests are received as required by said authorization.

23. The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 21, said program further comprising:

means for stopping recording of said messaging session, in response to receiving a request to stop recording.

24. The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 21, said program further comprising:

means for enabling storage of said recording of said messaging session at a message repository.

25. The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 21, said program further comprising:

means for enabling transmission of said recording of said messaging session to said plurality of users participating in said messaging session.

26. The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 21, said program further comprising:

means for enabling receipt of a request to record from a user participating in said messaging session.

27. The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 21, said program further comprising:

means for enabling receipt of a request to record from a user not participating in said messaging session who is authorized to record said messaging session.

28. The program for recording a messaging session according to claim 21, said means for notifying a plurality of users participating in said messaging session of said recording of said requested selection of said plurality of message entries further comprising:

means for notifying said plurality of user by transmitting a recording indicator to each of said plurality of users according to a plurality of recording preferences corresponding to said plurality of users.

29. A method for participating in a messaging session, said method comprising the steps of:

5       controlling output to a user participating in a messaging session of entries associated with said messaging session from a plurality of users participating in said messaging session; and

10      in response to receiving a recording indicator for said messaging session, adjusting said output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of message entries being recorded, such that said user participating in said messaging session is notified when message entries posted by said user and said plurality of users are being recorded.

30. The method for participating in a messaging session according to claim 29, said method further comprising the step of:

20      receiving said messaging session of entries and said recording indicator at a client messaging system communicatively connected through a network to a messaging server.

31. The method for participating in a messaging session according to claim 29, said method further comprising the step of:

25      receiving said messaging session of entries and said recording indicator at a client messaging system communicatively connected through a network to a plurality of participating client messaging systems.

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS  
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32. The method for participating in a messaging session according to claim 29, said method further comprising the step of:

5 in response to receiving a request to record by said user, transmitting a request to record a specified selection of entries associated with said messaging session.

33. The method for participating in a messaging session according to claim 29, said method further comprising the steps of:

10 receiving a recording approval request for recording a specified selection of entries associated with said messaging session; and

receiving a recording approval request for recording a specified selection of entries associated with said messaging session; and

in response to an indication of approval selected by said user, transmitting said indication of approval to said messaging server.

34. The method for participating in a messaging session according to claim 29, said step of adjusting said output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of message entries being recorded, further comprising the step of:

25 adjusting a textual output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of entries being recorded.

35. The method for participating in a messaging session according to claim 29, said step of adjusting said output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of message entries being recorded, further comprising the step of:

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adjusting a graphical output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of entries being recorded.

36. The method for participating in a messaging session according to claim 29, said step of adjusting said output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of message entries being recorded, further comprising the step of:

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adjusting an audible output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of entries being recorded.

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37. A system for participating in a messaging session, said system comprising:

5 a client messaging system communicatively connected to a network;

means for controlling output to a user participating in a messaging session of entries associated with said messaging session from a plurality of users participating in said messaging 10 session; and

means for adjusting said output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of message entries being recorded, in response to receiving a recording indicator for said messaging session, such that said user participating in said messaging session is notified when message entries posted by said user and said plurality of users are being recorded.

38. The system for participating in a messaging session according to claim 37, said system further comprising:

means for transmitting a request to record a specified selection of entries associated with said messaging session, in response to receiving a request to record by said user.

39. The system for participating in a messaging session according to claim 37, said system further comprising:

means for receiving a recording approval request for recording a specified selection of entries associated with said messaging session; and

means for transmitting said indication of approval to said messaging server, in response to an indication of approval selected by said user.

40. The system for participating in a messaging session according to claim 37, said means for adjusting said output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of message entries being recorded, further comprising:

means for adjusting a textual output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of entries being recorded.

41. The system for participating in a messaging session according to claim 37, said means for adjusting said output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of message entries being recorded, further comprising:

means for adjusting a graphical output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of entries being recorded.

42. The system for participating in a messaging session according to claim 37, said means for adjusting said output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of message entries being recorded, further comprising:

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means for adjusting an audible output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of entries being recorded.

43. A program for participating in a messaging session, residing  
10 on a computer usable medium having computer readable program code  
means, said program comprising:

1949-50. *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine* 42: 101-102.

means for controlling output to a user participating in a messaging session of entries associated with said messaging session from a plurality of users participating in said messaging session; and

means for adjusting said output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of message entries being recorded, in response to receiving a recording indicator for said messaging session.

44. The program for participating in a messaging session according to claim 43, said program further comprising:

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means for transmitting a request to record a specified selection of entries associated with said messaging session, in response to receiving a request to record by said user.

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45. The program for participating in a messaging session according to claim 43, said program further comprising:

means for receiving a recording approval request for recording a specified selection of entries associated with said messaging session; and

means for transmitting said indication of approval to said messaging server, in response to an indication of approval selected by said user.

46. The program for participating in a messaging session according to claim 43, said program further comprising:

means for adjusting a textual output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of entries being recorded.

47. The program for participating in a messaging session according to claim 43, said program further comprising:

means for adjusting a graphical output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of entries being recorded.

48. The program for participating in a messaging session according to claim 43, said program further comprising:

adjusting an audible output to distinguish a selection from among said plurality of entries being recorded.

49. A user interface for controlling recording of messaging sessions, comprising:

5 a selectable item for initiating recording of a selection of message entries within a messaging session; and

a changing textual display for distinguishing said recorded selection of message entries within said messaging session.

10 50. The user interface for controlling recording of messaging sessions according to claim 49, further comprising:

a selectable approval indicator for indicating approval of recording said selection of message entries.

51. The user interface for controlling recording of messaging sessions according to claim 49, wherein said changing textual display distinguishes between topics within said messaging session.

52. The user interface for controlling recording of messaging sessions according to claim 49, further comprising:

25 a selectable item for stopping recording of said selection of message entries.

53. The user interface for controlling recording of messaging sessions according to claim 49, further comprising:

30 a selectable item for pausing recording of said selection of message entries.

54. The user interface for controlling recording of messaging sessions according to claim 49, further comprising:

5 a graphical indicator of recording of said selection of message entries.